1/24/68

Dear Jim,

I think you should read this Paul Scott column carefully. It is not a one - shot. It follows the ChiTrib leak of 12/29 rather smugly.

It is getting around. I was confronted with it by a radical-right kook on a Florida phone-in program 1/22, when I not only answered it, point by point, but pointed out that a) it had to be of official origin, because my testimony before HUAC had never been published (they don't dare!) and b) I wondered what legislation these committees were considering, Congress not having the power to hold hearing for any but a legislative purpose, to outlaw district attorneys, writers, or both, or to limit what writers could write or write about.

Last December (1966) there was a professional effort made when I was first on Harv Morgan's program. Same stuff. Rather than ignoring it, as he was about to, I insisted on answering it. It is from this incident that my friendship with Harv stems. So thoroughly did I clobber Mr. Hoover's stooge that the phoney bit has not been raised again until now.

I never leaked anything when I worked for the Senate. Sometime, if you are interested, I'll tell you the entirely immaterial story. What I really did was lobby successfully for a continuation of the Committee when LaFollette wanted it do die, having gotten maximum political benefit, his only interest.

With HUAC, I befriended the Wash rep of the Silver Shirts, to whom I'd been introduced by Drew Pearson's leg man. He was brokexand without employment. I got his files. One was forged. I insisted upon and got an affidavit certifying their authenticity because several were photostats. It turns out he was also then on HUAC's payroll, and, natch, first thing I did was get the payroll record (I should still have it someplace). It went before a grand jury. I was no-billed and he was indicted. With Martin Dies' strong help he copped a plea and got two years, perjury and uttering and forging. Gave files to FBI whivh kept some, returned others. interesting story.